## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /131 W

-----190252Z 081925 /63

R 181618Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2791
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2990
USDEL MTN GENEVA
USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 00490

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EEC, ETRD

SUBJECT: DELIVERY OF AIDE MEMORIRE ON COMMUNITY STEEL PLAN

REF: STATE 3260

- 1. MISSION GAVE AIDE MEMOIRE TO EC OFFICIALS LOERKE AND TULLY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND KUTCHER, INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS.
- 2. LOERKE SAID HE THOUGHT MESSAGE WAS USEFUL BUT MAINTAINED THAT STEEL PROBLEM COULD NOT BE DEALT WITH ONLY ON THE LEVEL OF TRADE EFFECTS. THERE WAS A NEED TO EXAMINE PROBLEMS OF THE INDUSTRY IN A MULTILATERAL CONTEXT AND THE COMMISSION HAD NO OBJECTION TO A REVIEW OF THE SITUATION SUCH AS THE OECD DISCUSSION OF STEEL ISSUES IN LATE 1975. LOERKE INDICATED, HOWEVER, A STRONG PREFEERENCE FOR ADDITIONAL BILATERAL US-EC CONTACTS AND SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THIS USEFUL FOR THREE REASONS: NEW ADMINISTRATIONS ARE BEING SET UP IN US AND EC A BILATERAL MEETING WILL ENSURE THAT EACH SIDE UNDERSTANDS THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OTHERS VIEW; THE TIME IS NOT RIGHT TO ATTEMPT A
TRILATERAL MEETING WITH THE JAPANESE WHO WOULD FEEL
SQUEEZED BY SUCH A MEETING; AND LASTLY, LOERKE SAID
THERE SHOULD BE A CLEAR BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN FAR-REACHING
EFFORTS, OF THE SORT THE OECD MIGHT ADDRESS, TO REDEFINE
TRADE RELATIONSHIPS AND THE IMMEDIATE EC PROBLEM
WHICH WAS A SIMPLE TRADING PROBLEM WITH JAPAN AND SOME OTHER

## PARTNERS.

3. KUTCHER SAID THE EC FACED A CHOICE BETWEEN SUCCESS THROUGH THE SIMONET PLAN OR WIDESPREAD BANKRUPTCIES AND NATIONALIZATIONS OF EC STEEL INDUSTRIES. THE COMMISSION DID NOT LIKE THESE MEASURES BUT SAW THEM AS INEVITABLE IF EC INDUSTRIES ARE TO AVOID CONTINUED SALES AT BELOW COST. HE SAID THAT THE EC WAS UNDER PRESSURES FROM INDUSTRY AND ESPECIALLY UNIONS FOR EVEN STRONGER MEASURES ON PRODUCTION AND PRICES. KUTCHER MAINTAINED THE SOLUTION TO TRADE REPERCUSSIONS WAS FOR ALL PRODUCERS TO CUT BACK ON PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS DURING RECESSIONARY PERIODS. HE SAID US, EC, AND OTHER EUROPEANS HAD ALREADY DONE THIS. PROBLEM IS WITH THE JAPANESE, SOUTH KOREA, SOUTH AFRICA, AND A FEW OTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN UNWILLING TO DO SO.HINTON

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: POLICIES, AIDE MEMOIRE, IMPORT CONTROLS, STEELS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 18-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ECBRU00490
Document Source: 10.00

**Document Unique ID: 00** 

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** 

Film Number: D770019-0224

Format: TEL

From: EC BRUSSELS Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770143/aaaabkzy.tel

Line Count: 76 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: ff8047d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: 77 STĂTE 3260

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3575055 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: DELIVERY OF AIDE MEMORIRE ON COMMUNITY STEEL PLAN

TAGS: ETRD, EIND, US, EEC

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ff8047d5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009